



FACT SHEET

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Coliseum Central Highway Improvement Project (CCHIP)

- The project is 80% funded by the Federal Highway Administration
- The primary contractor for the project is Virginia Beach-based E. V. Williams
- Work began in late June 2001 and is scheduled to be completed August 1, 2006
- The project is being completed in three major phases
- The work zone covers 2.51 miles from I-664 on the east end to Hampton Roads Center Parkway on the west end
- Construction includes:
 - 26.5 lane miles of mainline concrete pavement.
 - 3.8 lane miles of asphalt pavement for ramps, loops, flyovers.
 - 4.8 lane miles of asphalt for Mercury and Magruder boulevards
 - 7 bridges built, replaced or improved
 - 14 MSE (mechanically stabilized earth) walls ranging in height from 3 to 51 feet.
- Both east and westbound lanes will be widened from three to four lanes to accommodate HOV and continuous merge lanes
- 138,000 travel the interstate through the work zone each day (170,000/day during peak travel seasons) making it the second busiest corridor in Hampton Roads
- 66,000 cars use Mercury Boulevard each day
- The highway improvement project is designed to ease congestion by:
 - replacing the traditional cloverleaf design at the Mercury Blvd. interchange with ramps and flyovers, increasing deceleration and merge distances
 - adding HOV lanes the length of the project
 - adding auxiliary (continuous merge) lanes
- Every inch of asphalt and concrete in the work zone will be replaced during the course of the project
- A total of seven bridges will be built, replaced or improved during the project